

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 242591

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEATS SECSTATE 242591 ACTION

BANGKOK 04 NOVEMBER 1974. QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 242591

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAIR, TH

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US-THAI NEGOTIATIONS

REF: BANGKOK 17409

FOR AMBASSADOR AND USDEL

1. AFTER CONSIDERING ALL FACTORS, DEPARTMENT CONNUCS SSEEPP
ISHOUPD PURSUE SECOND OPTION DESCRIBED PARA 4 REFTEL. WE
ARE UNABLE TO CONSIDER OFFER GRANT TOKYO-GUAM TRAFFIC
RIGHTS AT PRESENT. (FYI: PAN AM IS OPPOSED AND CAB IS
ADAMANT IN REFUSAL TO AGREE TO SUCH GRANT. END FYI.)
WHILE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES THAT THIS POSITION MAY ENTAIL
RISK BOTH TO US IMAGE IN THAILAND AND FOR US AIRLINES,
BELIEVE THIS RISK CAN BE MINIMIZED BY DEMONSTRATING--AS
SECOND OPTION CONTEMPLATES--THAT US MAKING EVERY EFFORT
CONSISTENT WITH ITS INTERESTS TO ACCOMMODATE THAI AND TO
REACH AGREEMENT. IF IN FACT, REFTEL ANALYSIS IS
CORRECT AND NO COMPROMISE SHORT OF COMPLETE ACCEPTANCE THAI
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DEMANDS WILL ACHIEVE AGREEMENT, SECOND OPTION PROVIDES

OPPORTUNITY TO SHIFT ONUS OF POSSIBLE FAILURE OF TALKS TO THAI.

2. APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR'S WILLINGNESS TO SEEK SOLUTION TO IMPASSE. RISKS OF APPROACH PROPOSED PARA 8 REFTEL, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO OUTWEIGH POTENTIAL BENEFITS. IF ON ONE

HAND, US CONCESSION OF TOKYO-GUAM WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS IS INSUFFICIENT, NOTHING HAS BEEN GAINED TOWARD BREAKING IMPASSE EXCEPT TO DEMONSTRATE ONCE AGAIN US WILLINGNESS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THAI. IF ON OTHER HAND, MINISTER INFERS AS RESULT OF APPROACH, HOWEVER INFORMAL IT MIGHT BE, US WILLINGNESS TO MAKE US-GUAM CONCESSION THIS COULD WHET THAI APPETITE AND INCREASE DANGER OF CON RONTATION WHEN IT EVENTUALLY BECOMES APPARENT TO THEM THAT USDEL IS NOT OFFERING FULL TOKYO-GUAM TRAFFIC RIGHTS AT THIS TIME.

3. FOLLOWING IS DETAILED GUIDANCE:

A. NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TACTICS OUTLINED PARA 7 REFTEL. FYI: PAN AM HAS NO PROBLEMS WITH PROPOSED INITIAL RESPONSE NOR WITH TAHITI-BANGKOK AFRICA-BANGKOK BLIND SECTOR FALLBACK. CAB BELIEVES INITIAL PROPOSAL SHOULD AVOID ACCEPTANCE SPECIFIC SECTORS IF OBJECTIVE OF EXERCISE CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT SPECIFICITY. LIKE PAN AM, CAB IS OPPOSED IN ANY EVENT TO INCLUSION MANILA-BANGKOK IN FALLBACK POSITION. END FYI.

B. CONCERNING THAI DOCUMENT 4, WE CANNOT ACCEPT BLIND-SECTOR RESTRICTION ON TOKYO-BANGKOK, BUT ARE PREPARED AS INDICATED ABOVE TO CONSIDER ACCEPT RESTRICTION ON TAHITI-BANGKOK AND BANGKOK-AFRICA. CHINA (PRC AND ROC) RESTRICTIONS UNACCEPTABLE.

C. THAI DOCUMENT 5 IN UNACCEPTABLE IN PRESENT FORM. HOWEVER, SINCE IT APPEARS ACCEPT BILATERAL RATHER THAN UNILATERAL CONCEPT, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO PURSUE THIS IN CONTEXT COMMENTS PARA 5 STATE 239982. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE
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